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[0011] Another aspect of the present invention provides a method for creating a legal map depicting legal reasoning for determining a law. The method includes presenting an objective of the law, determining an initial law to represent the objective and depicting the initial law at a first position of a triangle. An image that does not fit in with the initial law is presented and depicted at a second position of the triangle. A second law that addresses the image that does not fit in with the initial law is derived and depicted at a third position of the triangle. The second law may also be depicted at a first position of a second triangle. A second image that does not fit in with the second law is then presented and depicted at a second position of the second triangle. A third law that addresses the second image that does not fit in with the second law is derived and depicted at a third position of the second triangle.

[0012] Another aspect of the present invention provides a computer readable medium for storing a computer program that enables analysis of legal reasoning to derive a law relating to an objective. The computer readable medium includes a receiving source code segment, which receives the objective of the law and an initial law proposed to achieve the objective, and a presenting source code segment, which presents an image that does not fit in with the initial law. The receiving source code segment receives a second law, derived from the initial law, that accounts for the image that does not fit in. The computer readable medium may further include a storing source code segment that stores legal reasoning data, the data comprising the objective, the initial law, the image that does not fit in and the second law. The stored data is accessible by multiple users through a data network.

A2
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[0025] John's initial law is subject to analysis by the affected community of John's family and friends. For example, John's mother adds, "We do not want John to be involved in an accident with a automobile." John must therefore consider death or injury by automobile accident. In this case, John agrees that "John's death by automobile accident" is a nightmare (i.e., an image that does not fit in with the objective of the law and/or the initial law). This nightmare is indicated by circle 406 of Fig. 4 and circle 1103 of Fig. 11. Therefore, John revises his law to "John jogs every day with his dog Tiger, not passing any main roads with heavy automobile traffic." The revised law is a more detailed or more precise law derived from the initial law. The revised law is indicated by rectangle 408 of Fig. 4 and rectangle 1104 of Fig. 11. The initial law, the nightmare, and the revised law form a triangle, as clearly shown in Fig 11. One can easily see that the detailed law has been created with dialectic methodology reconciling the initial law and the nightmare. By illustrating the reasoning process with dialectic triangles, i.e., creating a legal map, the logic establishing each revised law is clearly recorded.---

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 3-8 and 10-11 as follows (a marked-up copy of each claim is attached to this paper):

A2

3. (Amended - Clean Copy) The method for analyzing legal reasoning according to claim 2, the presenting the image that does not fit in comprising:

presenting a proposed image that does not fit in via the computer network, the computer network being accessible by a plurality of participants;

receiving votes on whether the proposed image that does not fit in can be agreed upon as a nightmare; and